(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR)): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The tax concessions extended to the handloom sector, include: complete exemption from excise duty on plain reel cotton hank yarn and jute hank yarn ; on certain types of polyester blended yarn purchased by State Handloom Development Corporations ; concessional rate of excise duty on polyester filament yarn used in the production of polyester fabrics under a programme approved by Development Commissioner Handlooms and complete exemption from custom duty on the raw wool imported into India by a registered apex handloom cooperative society or a State Handloom Development Corporation, etc. These concessions are not available to the Powerloom sector.

Shortage of Currency Notes

761. SHRI J. P. JAVALI:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that demand for currency notes of various denominations is more than the supply by Reserve Bank of India ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, denominationwise ; and

(c) what are the reasons for the same and what action is being taken to overcome shortage of currency notes of various denominations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OE. FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The denomination-wise indent-supply details for the last two years (April-March) are as follows :

(Pieces in millions)

Denomination	1990-91		1991-92	
	Indent	Supply	Indent	Supply
Re. 1/-	350	440	—	254
Rs. 2/-	1300	1549	1100	279
Rs. 5/-	1600	1287	950	1646
Rs. 10/-	3000	994	3000	1057
Rs. 20/-	1000	152	470	54
Rs. 50/-	2200	1011	1800	1307
Rs. 100/-	2700	740	3000	638
Rs. 500/-	100	12	500	7
TOTAL :	12250	6185	10820	5242

(c) The reason for the shortage is the increasing demand of Reserve Bank of India for fresh notes and the limited capacity of the existing units to meet this demand. To bridge the gap between the demand and supply of currency/bank notes, following steps have been taken :

(1) The existing two note printing presses at Dewas and Nasik have been put on two shifts working.

(2) Two new Note Printing Presses one at Salboni (West Bengal) and the other at Mysore (Karnataka) are being set up by Reserve Bank of India.

(3) A decision has been taken to coinise Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 denomination notes in a phased manner so as to utilise the capacity so released, for printing of higher denomination notes,